HEARST, the Honourable Sir William Howard (Premier of Ontario) October 1918 - February 1919

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October 31st, 1918

The Honourable Sir William Hearst,

Premier of Ontario,

Toronto.

Dear Mr. Premier:

I have gone into the case of Mr. Hesson concerning whom you have written to me. I am sorry to find that though he seems to have been a very conscientious student he has found it difficult to maintain his academic standing.

Mr. Fleming is wrong in saying that the University authorities held him back from entering his third year because he had not engaged in munitions during his vacation. The reason was that he failed to pass his supplemental examinations. In his first year he had two supplementals, only one of which he took off by April 1917. In the spring of 1917 he failed on his second year and came up again in September when he received two supplementals, and by special permission was allowed to try two supplementals in January, on which he failed again, but he passed upon them in April 1918. In April 1918 he took the examination of the third year but failed in English, French and Spanish.

With regard to his not having been notified of the standing he received on the papers which he wrote on in the autumn the Registrar informs me that the results had been published, but the official statement had not been sent out.

As to the suggestion made by Mr. Tracy Carmichael that

the examiners have to a certain extent been guided by Mr. Besson's former papers you will realise that such a remark is irresponsible, because our examiners, unless they are quite unworthy of their position, which I have no reason to suppose they are, endeavour to do justice to each individual.

Also I have to say with regard to the arbitrary treatment given to Mr. Besson that the decisions were arrived at not by Mr. Prebner, but by the Committee on Applications and Memorials. So often we get complaints against decisions which are reached on the basis of what it is believed by the Committee a student ought to attempt, and the student again and again assumes that exceptions should be made in the rules on his behalf.

I know that the Arts Council will be glad to do anything it can for Mr. Besson, and I will see that his case is again brought before the committee, but I cannot think that the treatment is due to anything else than their judgment that the course outlined was the best for him to ensure his getting his degree.

Yours sincerely,

President.

October 22nd, 1918

Sir William Hearst,

Premier of Ontario.

My dear Mr. Premier:

You may have noticed in the newspapers that we are to have a visit from a deputation of distinguished ladies and gentlemen from the British Universities to the Universities of the United States and Canada. We expect them to arrive on Sunday morning, November 3rd, and to remain here till Tuesday morning, November 5th. We are now completing arrangements for their entertainment and among other items is a dinner for them at the York Club on Monday night, November 4th. I hope that you will be able to be present with us on that occasion, and that you have no other engagement that would interfere with this arrangement.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

December 10th, 1918

Sir William Hearst,

Premier of Ontario.

My dear Sir William:

On Monday night, December 16th, at half past six, there is to be a dinner in the Examination Hall behind the Convocation Hall for the purpose of discussing what memorial the graduates shall raise to the memory of those who have fallen and to those of our graduates who have served overseas. This should be a very important meeting as we hope to get the movement launched. If it is at all possible for you to be present that evening I know your presence will be greatly appreciated.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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OFFICE OF
THE PRIME MINISTER & PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
ONTARIO

Toronto, February 26th, 1919.

My dear Sir Robert,-

Enclosed please find copy of letter from Mr. Race, Superintendent of the Ontario School for the Blind, Brantford.

Kindly let me know if it would be possible to meet with Mr. Race's wishes as expressed in his letter.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. Hearst

Sir Robert Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

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Ontario School for the Blind,

Brantford, February 25th, 1919.

Hon. Sir W. H. Hearst, K.C.M.G.,
Parliament Buildings,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Sir William:

You were so busy in your office last Tuesday that I did not wish to intrude upon your time and lay before you a matter about which I am now writing.

The Convention of the Workers for the Blind of America is being held this year for the first time in Canada at Toronto, June 24-5-6-7, and I am very anxious that it should be a success in every particular.

I am writing to ask you to appeal to President Falconer for the use of University residence and the dining hall, and one of the rooms in the University to hold the meetings of this Convention.

This Bi-Annual Convention of the Workers for the Blind, attracts delegates from every state in the American Union, and many whom I met last year were looking forward with eager anticipation to a first visit to Canada. Naturally I want their reception to be such as to create a most favourable impression, and I should much gratified if you could use your good offices in urging upon President Falconer the desirability of having them comfortably provided for during their short stay in Toronto. Of course, it is understood that the delegates will pay whatever fee is required for this purpose.

I am also writing to DR. Cody a short note telling him how anxious I am for this Convention to be such a success that it will compate most favourably with those that are held in the American states.

Yours very sincerely,

(sgd) W. B. Race.

February 28th, 1919

Honourable Sir William Hearst, K.C.M.G.,

Premier of Ontario.

My dear Sir William:

We will of course endeavour to do what we can to help Mr. Race in the summer. I rather think that we must keep one of the Residences for the summer classes for returned men. I will, however, correspond directly with Mr. Race.

Yours sincerely,

President.